

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1 and 2, and add new claim 9 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of amplifying an envelope-defective retrovirus comprising:
 - (a) integrating a transgene encoding a virus envelope into the genome of a cell to produce an indicator cell;
 - (b) contacting the indicator cell produced in step (a) with an a vector batch to be screened for presence of exogenous envelope-defective retrovirus,wherein virus envelope encoded by said gene complements said retrovirus.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein said virus envelope is incorporated by a virus particle produced by said indicator cell~~ further comprising determining the amount of envelope-defective recombinant viral particles present in the vector batch.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said virus envelope is expressed by said indicator cell.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the virus envelope gene is vesicular stomatitis virus protein G (VSVG).

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the retrovirus comprises an immunodeficiency virus.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the retrovirus comprises human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein expression of the envelope gene is controlled by an inducible promoter.

8. (Withdrawn) A method of detecting envelope-defective retrovirus comprising:

- (a) amplifying an envelope-defective retrovirus by the method of claim 1; and
- (b) detecting presence of recombinant viral particles produced by the indicator cell.

9. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein an inoculum of viral particles encapsidating an envelope-defective construct at a level of < 20 fg p24 equivalent in a 15 day incubation period is amplified to a detectable level.